NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Office of Archives and History Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Pineville Commercial Historic District

Pineville, Mecklenburg County, MK2934, Listed 8/5/2011 Nomination by Rick Mattson and Frances Alexander Photographs by Frances Alexander, December 2010



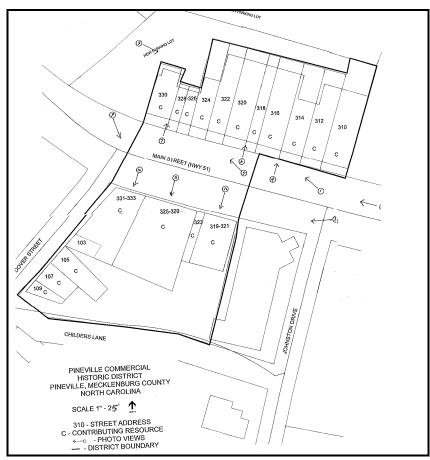
Main Street, north side



Main Street, south side



Dover Street, east side looking north



Historic District Map

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property		
historic name Pineville Commercial Historic D	District	
other names/site number N/A		_
2. Location		
street & number 310-333 Main Street, 105-109 Dover Street		not for publication N/A
city or town Pineville		
state North Carolina code	NC_ county Mecklenburg_	code <u>119</u> zip code <u>28134</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Hist request for determination of eligibility meets the Places and meets the procedural and professional does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recolocally. (See continuation sheet for additional	ne documentation standards for regis requirements set forth in 36 CFR Par mmend that this property be conside	tering properties in the National Register of Historic t 60. In my opinion, the propertyXmeets
Signature of certifying official North Carolina Department of Cultura State or Federal agency and bureau	Date Al Resources	
In my opinion, the property meets does comments.)	not meet the National Register criteri	a. (See continuation sheet for additional
Signature of commenting or other official Date		
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):		

5. Classification **Ownership of Property Category of Property Number of Resources within Property** (Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box) (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) building(s) Contributing Noncontributing _X_ private X district X public-local 0 buildinas 15 0 sites public-State site 0 0 0 public-Federal ___ structure _ structures _ objects ___ object 0 0 <u>15</u> 0 Total Number of contributing resources previously Name of related multiple property listing listed in the National Register (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A 6. Function or Use **Historic Functions Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE/department store COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant COMMERCE/TRADE/business COMMERCE/TRADE/professional COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution COMMERCE/TRADE/organizational WORK IN PROGRESS/N/A COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution RECREATION AND CULTURE/movie theater GOVERNMENT/post office

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

<u>Italianate</u>

Commercial Style

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _	Brick
roof	Asphalt
walls	Brick
	Concrete Block
other	Wood
	Glass
	Metal

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheet, Section 7, Page 1.

8. Statement of Significance **Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing) Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) _X A Property is associated with events that have Architecture made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Commerce our history. B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a **Period of Significance** significant and distinguishable entity whose components ca. 1873-1956_____ lack individual distinction. D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Significant Dates N/A **Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) Significant Person A owned by a religious institution or used for (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) religious purposes. N/A B removed from its original location. **Cultural Affiliation** C a birthplace or a grave. N/A ____ D a cemetery. Architect/Builder E a reconstructed building, object, or structure. Unknown ____ F a commemorative property. G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years. **Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See Continuation Sheet, Section 8, Page 11. 9. Major Bibliographical References **Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.) See Continuation Sheet, Section 9, page 19 Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. __ previously listed in the National Register ___ previously determined eligible by the National Register ____ designated a National Historic Landmark ____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_ ____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____ **Primary Location of Additional Data** X State Historic Preservation Office ___ Other State agency ___ Federal agency Local government ___ University Other Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Propertyapproximately 4.5 acres	_
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on	a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing 1 17 509900 3882340 2	Zone Easting Northing 3 4
	See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	See Continuation Sheet, Section 10, Page 21.
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	See Continuation Sheet, Section 10, Page 21.
11. Form Prepared By	
name/titleRichard Mattson and Frances Alexande	
organization Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.	date <u>March 28, 2011</u>
street & number_2228 Winter Street	telephone (704) 376-0985
city or town Charlotte star	te <u>NC</u> zip code <u>28205</u>
12. Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the A sketch map for historic districts and properties ha	
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the p	property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for an	y additional items)
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name	
street & number telephone	
city or town state	_ zip code
Panarwark Raduction Act Statements. This information is being sel	llocted for applications to the National Pogister of Historic Places to nominate

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

7. Narrative Description

The Pineville Commercial Historic District is concentrated along the 300 block of Main Street and the 100 block of Dover Street, just east of the railroad tracks in Pineville, North Carolina. The town of Pineville is located approximately ten miles south of Charlotte in Mecklenburg County, near the South Carolina state line. Incorporated in 1873, Pineville developed as a cotton-mill town, mule-trading center, and marshalling point for local cotton. Historically the town's principal thoroughfare and commercial artery, Main Street runs east-west through the heart of Pineville and crosses the railroad at the west end of town. The compact historic district took shape between ca. 1873 and ca. 1960 and consists of contiguous rows of one-story and two-story, brick commercial buildings on both the north and south sides of Main Street. The historic district also extends south along the 100 block of Dover Street to encompass a one-story, brick-veneered commercial block built in 1956. Most of the buildings occupy narrow lots, approximately fifteen feet to thirty feet wide. Typical of small-town commercial streets, Main Street is a broad thoroughfare that was laid out to accommodate the turning of horse-drawn wagons.

The historic district remains vibrant although antique businesses and other specialty shops now occupy buildings that once housed general stores, drugstores, and other customary small-town businesses. Nevertheless, barbershops (319 and 322 Main Street), a gun shop (326-328 Main Street), and a tavern/pool hall (324 Main Street) persist as commercial mainstays and reflect the district's traditional role in the town. The town's railroad passenger and freight station, which originally stood alongside the railroad tracks at the southwest corner of Main and Dover streets, was relocated outside Pineville in 1978. The parking lot for the town hall now fills this site just west of the historic district.

Pineville's commercial development occurred first along the north side of Main Street and subsequently along the south side. Most of the buildings along the north side were erected between about 1873 and 1910, using handmade brick, and incorporating such elements as corbelled brick stringcourses and cornices and metal or wooden cornices atop the shopfronts. Located near the center of the block at 316 Main Street, Younts General Store (ca. 1873) is the oldest building in the historic district. Built by the prominent Pineville businessman and real estate investor Samuel Younts, the 1873 town charter referred to Younts's store on Main Street as the point of reference for defining the town limits. Its tall façade is distinguished by segmental-arched vents and a storefront with tall display windows and transom. The building's stepped parapet remains although the original molded cornice along the coping has been removed. The block's only two-story building is the adjacent Pineville Loan and Savings Bank at 316 Main Street. The ca. 1910 building features tall, segmental-arched windows across the four-bay upper story and a prism-glass transom above the ground-floor entry and windows. The flanking one-story commercial facades (312, 318-320 Main Street) are distinguished by their matching corbelled parapets and cornices with decorative pendants.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 2

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

The buildings along the south side of Main Street were constructed between the 1920s and 1950s. The narrow facades typically have unadorned brick surfaces with flush doorways and display windows. Roman brick and metal-paneled exteriors, and steel-sash, recessed entrances mark several of the mid-century storefronts and set them apart from the adjoining 1920s facades. Located at the southeast corner of Main and Dover streets (331-333 Main Street), the 1925 Yandell Hotel and Grocery Building is the largest resource in the historic district. Capped by shallow-pitched, pedimented parapets on the Main and Dover street elevations, the two-story, brick building has two storefront bays oriented to Main Street and a rear storefront facing Dover. Finally, the one-story block of three brick-faced storefronts on Dover Street (105-109 Dover Street) was built in 1956. The fifteen-foot-wide facades have plain brickwork, wood-sash doors and display windows, and terra cotta coping.

The district retains its historic architectural scale and the rhythm of narrow storefronts sited close to the street. The principal modern exterior changes include some modifications to the main entranceways, which is typical of small-town, Main Street facades. However, many of the basic shopfront configurations are remarkably intact. On the north side of the street, the most intact shopfronts in the center of the block feature slightly recessed entrances with transoms and flanking display windows capped by molded cornices. Most of the interiors have been modernized to accommodate new uses, but most of the buildings retain the open floor plans original to such commercial buildings. In addition, several buildings on the north side retain original pressed-metal ceilings.

Recent construction around the periphery of the commercial historic district includes the modern two-story, red-brick and cast-stone retail building at the intersection of Main and Church streets on the south side of Main Street. This building replaced a 1950s gas station on the site. A walkway and low brick wall separate this large, freestanding building from the attached block of significantly smaller storefronts within the historic district to the west. Parking areas mark the other edges of the historic district to define clearly its boundaries and distinguish the historic commercial core from Pineville's residential blocks that took shape primarily east and south of the business district.

INVENTORY LIST

The following bibliographic references were used in preparing the inventory list: North Carolina Historic Preservation Office architectural survey files for the Town of Pineville; Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission records; published local histories and architectural surveys; and an interview with local historian Joe. H. Griffin. The dates of construction were derived from deed research as well as from previous architectural survey investigations, local histories, and local landmark designation reports.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 3

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

The historic district contains fifteen contributing and no noncontributing resources. The properties classified as contributing were all built during the period of significance (between ca. 1873 and 1956). As was common in many small-town business districts, a number of the commercial buildings have storefronts that appear to have been remodeled in the 1950s with metal-sash windows and doors replacing the earlier wood sash. A few of the storefronts have been modified in recent years with new wood-sash storefronts to replicate the original appearance of the buildings. The postwar alterations all occurred within the period of significance, and the buildings all retain the seven aspects of integrity—location, design, setting, feeling, association, materials, and workmanship.

DOVER STREET

Commercial Building

105-109 Dover Street; 1956; Contributing Building

According to local tax records, this one-story, flat-roofed, masonry commercial building was built in 1956. The three-unit building has a brick façade and side (south) elevation laid in running bond and a concrete-block rear elevation. The rear elevation of 105 Dover is brick with a modern door. The flat parapet is capped with terra cotta coping. The building's three storefronts have square, wood-sash display windows with brick sills and flat lintels. The unit at 105 Dover Street has a replacement door, and the middle store at 107 Dover has been modified with double-leaf, fifteen-light doors. The store at 109 Dover has a recessed entrance flanked by display windows of unequal sizes. The concrete block rear elevation at 107 and 109 Dover have multiple windows and single-leaf entrances. A variety of small retail and service establishments, including beauty parlors and clothing shops, have occupied this building.

MAIN STREET

Commercial Building

310 Main Street; 1935/remodeled ca. 1955; Contributing Building

According to local tax records, the one story, brick commercial building was built in 1935 although the Roman brick façade reflects a mid-1950s remodeling. The building has a flat parapet with terra cotta coping and a recessed, central entrance. A modern, wooden, bracketed cornice above the shopfront has been added to the building. The entrance has been modified with double-leaf, twelve-light, single-panel modern doors. The entrance is flanked by modern wood-sash, plate-glass windows. The exposed side (east) elevation is constructed of concrete block with a recent stucco veneer. The utilitarian rear elevation has a garage bay, a replacement door, and a single, one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash window. The elevation is partially covered in vinyl siding above the concrete-block base.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 4

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Commercial Building

312 Main Street, ca. 1900; Contributing Building

This one story, brick commercial building has a slightly projecting, flat parapet ornamented with a corbelled cornice line and decorative dogtooth brickwork. The lower edge of the parapet is also corbelled and decorated with corbelled pendants. Below the corbelling is a recessed panel. A molded wooden cornice with Italianate brackets caps the storefront. Until recently, the storefront had a flush entrance with double-leaf, metal-sash, glass doors and large, metal-sash plate-glass windows that were mid-century replacements. In the past year, the storefront has been modified. The façade composition remains the same with a central entrance, flanking storefront windows, and a three-part transom. The original recessed entrance has been restored, and double-leaf, wood doors with multiple lights above lower panels and wood-sash, display windows have been added, now generally replicating the original entrance. The rear elevation is laid in American bond with an altered door and a boarded-over window. Two other openings have also been boarded over.

Local businessman, W. A. Yandell, and his wife bought the property in 1944 from S.F. Hoover and his sister, Frances. The property once housed a five-and-dime store and subsequently was occupied by Gold and Williamson Grocery Store. According to local historian, Joe Griffin, the bricks used here and for many of the commercial buildings on the north side of Main Street were handmade, using clay from nearby Sugaw Creek.

Pineville Loan and Savings Bank

314 Main Street, ca. 1910; Contributing Building

This two story, brick commercial building has a flat, corbelled cornice above a recessed name panel. The second floor has tall, segmental-arched, nine-over-one light, double-hung, wood-sash windows that sit in deep, molded casings. The original windows were four-over-four lights, but the extant windows appear to be early twentieth century replacements. A continuous, brick sill extends across the façade below which is a molded metal cornice capping the first story. The cornice partially disguises the I-beam lintel that supports the upper story. The intact storefront consists of a three-part transom (with prism glass), a recessed central entrance, and multiple-light, wood-sash, display windows. The double-leaf, wood doors have single-lights above lower panels. A single-leaf door, capped by a transom, occupies the easternmost bay and opens to a staircase leading to the second floor. The door is a modern replacement. The original staircase to the upper story appears original with a square newel. The rear of the building is one-story tall with a concrete-block rear wall and a modern, double-leaf door.

According to local historian, Joe H. Griffin, the bricks used here and for many of the commercial buildings on the north side of Main Street were handmade, using clay from nearby Sugaw Creek. The building was occupied in the early twentieth century by the Pineville Loan and Savings Bank,

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 5

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

which closed during the Crash of 1929. During the subsequent Depression, the building was home to a drugstore owned by Robert Hair who served as mayor after World War II. The Pineville Masonic Lodge No. 455 and the Redmen Lodge both occupied the upper story in the 1920s. During the 1940s, the upper floor was the office of Pineville's sole physician.

Younts General Store

316 Main Street; ca. 1873; Contributing Building

This broad, one-story masonry commercial building, constructed of handmade brick, stands the equivalent of one and one-half stories tall and has a crenellated parapet with brick coping and decorative brick panels in the end crenellations. A simple, brick stringcourse defines the lower edge of the parapet. Below the stringcourse are three equally spaced vents, with iron grilles, that probably open into an attic that was used for storage. A molded cornice sits atop an I-beam lintel that supports the upper story. The intact storefront consists of a three-part transom, a recessed central entrance, and fixed-light, wood-sash, display windows. The double-leaf, wood doors have single-lights above lower panels. The storefront is framed by incised, brick pilasters. Some of the original interior shelves remain intact. The stuccoed rear elevation has a double-leaf door capped by a transom.

The oldest commercial building in Pineville, this general store was owned by Samuel Younts, a Davidson County native and blacksmith who came to Pineville following the Civil War. Younts quickly became successful with a variety of business enterprises, including his original blacksmith foundry and livery stable, general store, cotton brokerage, and a mule trading operation. With incorporation in 1872, Younts became Pineville's first mayor, and the original town limits were measured one-half mile in either direction from Younts's store. Younts also became one of the original investors in the Pineville Cotton Mill which opened in 1888. During the 1930s, 316 Main Street housed Howard Brothers Grocery Store which remained in operation until the early 1970s. Since then, a salvage operation, antiques store, and cultural center have been located at this address.

Carroll's Grocery Store

318 Main Street; ca. 1900; Contributing Building

The narrow, one story, brick commercial building appears to be an infill building (although constructed at roughly the same time as the adjoining Nevin Mercantile Building to the west). The former grocery store has a flat parapet ornamented with brick corbelling and pendants. Below the corbelling is the original molded, metal cornice. The flush, central entrance consists of double-leaf, metal-sash doors that were added mid-century. The flanking, wood-sash shop windows appear original although the brick aprons also appear to be mid-century modifications. The granite foundation and threshold are original. The interior has a dropped, composition board ceiling that

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 6

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

was probably added during the mid-century remodeling. The rear elevation has been stuccoed, and a shed-roofed canopy now shelters the rear entrance.

Carroll's Grocery Store was housed in this building from the 1930s until the 1960s although 318 Main was part of the Miller family's extensive holdings until 2002. The Millers owned much of the north side of Main Street since the 1920s. After Carroll's Grocery closed, Pineville Radio and T.V. occupied the building.

McCoy Barbershop/Pineville Post Office

319-321 Main Street; 1955; Contributing Building

The one story, masonry commercial building is divided into two units with brick facades and concrete block side and rear elevations. Housing the McCoy Barbershop, the eastern shopfront has a flat parapet capped with terra cotta coping, an off-center entrance, and a large, aluminum-sash display window. The single-leaf, wood and glass door appears original, but the transom over the door is now covered in plywood. The rear elevation has a modern replacement door and original, one-over-one, metal-sash windows.

Sharing the same building is the former Pineville Post Office. The one story, brick building has a central entrance flanked by original, aluminum-sash windows. The single-leaf door is a modern replacement, but the aluminum-sash transom is intact. The concrete-block rear elevation retains its horizontal-panel door and steel-sash casement window.

The barbershop was owned by local businessman and Pineville mayor, C. H. McCoy, from the mid-1950s, when the building was constructed, until its closing in the early 1980s. Summers Barbershop opened at this location in 1989. 321 Main Street housed the local post office in the 1960s, a real estate office in the late 1970s, and is now the site of a salon.

Niven Mercantile Building

320 Main Street; ca. 1900; Contributing Building

This one story, handmade brick commercial building has a flat parapet with a corbelled cornice and corbelled pendants. Incised, brick pilasters, extending the full height of the building, frame the façade. Below the corbelling is a recessed panel. A molded, metal cornice caps the storefront and partially hides the I-beam lintel. The ground-level storefront retains its central, double-leaf entrance, three-part transom, and large, wood-sash windows, but the metal-sash, glass doors and the brick knee walls under the windows are mid-century replacements. The store interior retains its pressed tin ceiling. The brick rear elevation has been stuccoed, and the single-leaf entrance is a modern replacement.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 7

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

The commercial building at 320 Main Street was owned by the Niven family, who purchased it from W. A. Yandell in the 1920s and established the Niven Mercantile Company. E. E. Niven died in 1932, and his wife inherited the building which she, in turn, resold to the Yandells in 1947. Hardware store owner, Charlie Howie, operated his business from this location into the 1940s, and in 1958, Kenneth Wilkerson purchased the business from Howie. Wilkerson and his son operated the hardware store for thirty-one years until its closing in 1989.

Bailes Recreation Building

322 Main Street; ca. 1906; Contributing Building

The one story, brick commercial building has a flat parapet with a simple, corbelled brick cornice below which is a recessed panel. A bracketed, reeded cornice, with fluted end brackets, caps the storefront. The recessed, central entrance consists of a single-leaf, metal-sash door that was added mid-century. The door is flanked by wood-sash display windows. The brick aprons below the windows are also mid-century replacements of the original wood-paneled aprons. The building has a one-story rear addition that has a shed roof and is covered in composition siding. The single-leaf entrance is a modern replacement.

Walter B. Bailes bought this Main Street lot in 1906 from W.A. and S.C. Rodgers. Bailes Recreation, at 322 Main, is the oldest business in Pineville that remains in operation. Started as a barbershop, Bailes added a pool room at the rear of the store.

Commercial Building

323 Main Street; 1956; Contributing Building

This one-story, masonry building has a flat parapet with flat tile coping, a Roman brick façade, and a recessed entrance bay. The double-leaf, aluminum-sash doors are set off-center with an aluminum-sash transom and single sidelight. The blank wall right of the door has a small display window with a decorative frame. The concrete-block rear elevation has a single-leaf door and single window.

Pineville Pharmacy

324 Main Street; ca. 1900; Contributing Building

The one story, brick commercial building has a flat parapet with a simple, corbelled brick cornice below which is a recessed panel. A bracketed, metal cornice caps the storefront opening. During the 1950s, the storefront appears to have been made smaller, and the central entrance, with its metal-sash, double leaf, glass doors, and flanking metal-sash windows replaced the original storefront. Wire-cut brick was used to fill in around the smaller windows, and the wire-cut brick aprons replaced the original wood-paneled aprons. The interior retains its pressed tin ceiling. The building has a utilitarian, brick rear elevation.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 8

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

No longer owned by the Bailes family, the building at 324 Main Street was the home to the Pineville Pharmacy by 1913 but has housed various businesses since the 1960s.

Yandell Building

325-329 Main Street; 1928/ca. 1955 partial remodeling; Contributing Building

The Yandell Building is a one-story, brick building with three storefront units. The façade has a tall, flat parapet with brick coping. An I-beam lintel caps the storefront openings. The tall parapet steps down along the side (east) elevation to the low rear elevation that is punctuated by two, single-leaf doors.

The façade of 325 Main was apparently altered in the mid-1950s to match the Roman brick, modernist façade of its neighbor to the east, 323 Main. This unit is divided visually into two sections. The easternmost has a recessed niche while the western bay has a recessed entrance capped by aluminum panels. The entrance features an off-center, single-leaf door with a middle panel of jalousie windows.

The storefront at 327 Main is original with a central entrance flanked by two wood-sash windows. The entrance features a nine-light, single-panel door that is capped by a transom that is now covered in plywood. The plate-glass windows sit on heavy, concrete sills.

The storefront at 329 Main has an original central entrance with a single-leaf, single-light door capped by a fixed-light transom. The flanking storefront windows now have metal sash.

Much of the south side of Main Street was owned by the Yandell family. W. A. Yandell had begun acquiring land on Main Street in 1919, and the Yandells remained a prominent business family in Pineville through the postwar era. After constructing this three-unit commercial building in 1928, Yandell had his business office at 329 Main Street while McCoy's Barbershop was originally located at 327 Main Street. The State Theater, the town's sole movie theater, was housed in 325 Main Street and operated by J. O. Childers and his wife until the 1950s.

Pineville Gun Shop

326-328 Main Street; ca. 1910/ca. 1950 remodeling; Contributing Building

This low, brick commercial building contains two store units. The smooth brick façade, laid in American bond, appears to be a mid-century replacement that differs from the rougher handmade bricks used on the surrounding buildings. The gun shop building has a flat parapet with a denticulated, brick cornice, and a simple, wood fascia hides the lintel that spans the storefront opening. The two units are mirror images of each other with the two single-leaf doors occupying the center bays and large, fixed-light windows in the outer bays. The store at 326 Main has its

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 9

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

original four-light, horizontal-panel door, but the solid door at 328 Main is a modern replacement. The transoms over the doors are now infilled. The brick rear elevation has a utilitarian appearance with a single, modern entrance.

The building was erected by the Ardrey family, one of the oldest families in Pineville. Dr. Joseph Alexander Ardrey was the town's first physician who began his practice in the 1870s and was later a major investor in the Pineville Cotton Mill (1888). His son, J. A. Ardrey, owned the gun shop that was located at 326 Main. J. A. Ardrey was one of the local business owners who petitioned the Pineville Board of Aldermen to pave Main Street in 1929. Dr. Ardrey's daughter, Louisa, was a local schoolteacher who also owned a beauty salon that occupied 328 Main. The gun shop remains in operation.

Blankenship Feed and Oil Store

330 Main Street; ca. 1905; Contributing Building

This one story, brick commercial building has simple end pilasters and a flat parapet with a corbelled cornice. A molded, metal cornice caps the storefront. The central entrance consists of double-leaf, metal-sash doors that are mid-century replacements. The transom over the door is now covered. Beneath the flanking, wood-sash plate-glass windows are replacement brick aprons. The exposed side (west) elevation has a stepped parapet and segmental-arched windows that are now brick infilled. A brick stringcourse continues the line of the façade cornice along this elevation. The utilitarian rear elevation has an off-center, single-leaf door.

Although owned at various times by both the locally prominent Miller and Niven families, the building housed the Blankenship Feed and Oil Store for more than seventy years. William Blankenship opened the feed store before the 1930s and also operated an icehouse on the south side of Main Street. His son later operated the business as well as serving on the town board of commissioners. The feed store remained in business until after 2000 and is now home to an antique store.

Yandell Hotel and Grocery Store

331-333 Main Street; 1925; Contributing Building

The most substantial and oldest of the commercial buildings on the south side of Main Street, the two-story, brick Yandell Hotel and Grocery Store has two storefronts on the ground level as well as an upper story. The building occupies a corner lot, and the footprint of the building conforms to the obtuse angle of this intersection. The building has a stepped parapet with a low peak in the center and concrete coping. The parapet design is repeated on the side (west) elevation along Dover Street. A row of vents are found under the façade parapet. The second story façade has six symmetrical windows. During a recent renovation, four-over-one light, double hung, wood sash replacements were installed on the facade. The windows on the side (west) and rear elevations

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 10 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

remain boarded over. Original, multiple-light, steel-sash windows remain only on the second story of the side (east) elevation.

The two first-story storefronts are roughly equal in size and are divided by a simple, brick pilaster. The I-beam lintel over the storefronts is hidden by a decorative panel of brick soldier courses laid vertically and framed by brick headers. The eastern storefront (331 Main) was made smaller with brick infill but retains its central entrance and adjoining windows. The double-leaf, metal and glass doors and metal-sash, plate-glass windows are modern replacements. The storefront at 333 Main has undergone a recent renovation. The double-leaf, twelve-light and single-panel doors are modern, but the metal-sash, plate-glass windows and metal aprons reflect a mid-century remodeling. An identical, twelve-light door is found between the two storefronts and leads to the upper story. The side elevation has a large, display window near the intersection with Main Street and a series of one-over-one light, double hung, wood-sash windows that are capped by transoms. The windows are recent replacements. At roughly the mid-point along this elevation is a single door leading to the second story. In the rear bay is a secondary storefront with a central entrance and two flanking windows that are capped by a transom. This shop has recently been remodeled to match the façade with wood-sash windows and a twelve-light, single-panel door. The rear elevation of the building also has a twelve-light, one-panel door as well as a mid-century, metalsash and glass door.

The ground floor housed owner W.A. Yandell's business office at 331 Main Street and a grocery store (333 Main Street) in the corner location. A hotel was situated on the second floor.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 11 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

8. Statement of Significance

The Pineville Commercial Historic District is a remarkably intact collection of small-town commercial buildings associated with the development of Pineville between the late nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries. The historic district meets Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. Concentrated primarily along Main Street near the Southern Railway tracks, the well-preserved historic district emerged as Pineville's economic and cultural center between the late nineteenth century and the mid-twentieth century. The commercial buildings housed an array of businesses that served the needs of the town and surrounding farms, including general stores; a feed and fuel oil business; a doctor's office; the Masonic Lodge hall; barbershops; a hotel; a drugstore; a movie theater; and bank. As Pineville became a booming textile mill town in the twentieth century, the commercial district grew apace with established businesses lining both sides of Main Street as well as along Dover Street facing the railroad tracks.

Pineville developed amidst the vigorous growth of small towns in North Carolina between the Civil War and 1900. Over 200 towns were established in the state during this period, the great majority of these in the Piedmont where new rail lines spurred development. Reflecting the regional pattern, the Mecklenburg County towns of Pineville, Matthews, Cornelius, Huntersville, and Davidson all arose or expanded significantly in the decades around 1900. Their business districts were marshalling points for agricultural products and centers of local trade. Today, the original commercial areas of Huntersville and Cornelius have been heavily altered, but the historic Main Street business districts of Matthews (National Register 1996), Davidson (National Register 2009), and Pineville remain well preserved.

Architecturally, the Pineville Commercial Historic District contains well-preserved rows of contiguous masonry buildings that clearly illustrate late nineteenth century and early to midtwentieth-century commercial design. The one-story and two-story facades are fine examples of the commercial architecture that characterized small town main streets throughout Mecklenburg County and the region in this period. These facades retain original brickwork, including decorative corbelling and recessed panels on the earliest buildings. Many also display original shopfront configurations with recessed entries flanked by large windows and capped by transoms. Although the interiors have been remodeled for modern uses, the original, open floor plans usually remain, and several interiors feature pressed-tin ceilings and original shelving. Demolitions in the historic district have been rare and confined to the edges of the commercial blocks. The scale of the district is remarkably unchanged.

The period of significance for the Pineville Commercial Historic District begins circa 1873 when Pineville was incorporated and the oldest remaining building was constructed in the historic district. The period of significance extends to 1956, the date of the last building erected in the district.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 12 Pineville Commercial Historic District
Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Historical Background Essay/Commerce Context

Pineville is located in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, approximately ten miles south of Charlotte near the South Carolina state border. The town has its roots in a stagecoach stop established along the wagon road that ran southward through the North Carolina Piedmont into South Carolina in the early nineteenth century. The original settlement was named Morrow's Turnout for one of the area's early white families. Although the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad was built through the community in 1852, the first passenger and freight station was not constructed here until 1869, when the Charlotte and South Carolina line merged with the Columbia and Augusta Railroad. The station promised growth, and in 1873 the community was incorporated as Pineville, named for the numerous stands of pine trees. In 1894, the railroad became part of the Southern Railway system that integrated Pineville, Mecklenburg County, and the Piedmont region of North and South Carolina into a national network of rail lines. This new connectivity linked Pineville to far-flung markets and drew industries—especially cotton mills—to the town and the region (Blythe and Brockman 1961: 259-262, 417-422; Charlotte Observer 21 May 1967).

Pineville was one of many small railroad towns that appeared throughout region after the Civil War. Between the Civil War and 1900, new rail lines spurred the growth of over 200 towns in North Carolina. The majority were located in the Piedmont which by the early twentieth century was becoming the center of the nation's textile industry. In Mecklenburg County, the towns of Pineville, Matthews, Huntersville, and Cornelius were founded along railroad lines in this period. At the northern reaches of the county, the town of Davidson, which began in 1835 as the site of Davidson College, grew significantly as a textile mill town and farming trade center after the arrival of steady train service in 1874 (Tullos 1989: 135-140; Glass 1992: 57-58).

The railways tied these places to a national network of fast, reliable transportation, providing these once isolated Piedmont communities with mass-produced goods and building materials and spurring local industry. After the Civil War, when the Atlanta, Tennessee, and Ohio Railway was reconstructed through Davidson, an 1871 issue of the *Davidson Monthly* sang, "We are no longer shut out from the rest of creation!" Small-town general merchants stocked their shelves with the latest products from national and international manufacturers and advanced agricultural supplies to cotton farmers, who, in turn, cultivated more and more of the crop to pay for these provisions (*Davidson Monthly* 16 June, 1871; Goldfield 1982: 86-90).

The most successful merchants were part of a new and aggressive entrepreneurial class described by W. J. Cash, author of the influential book, *The Mind of the South* (1941), as "the army of the enterprising and the hard." These Piedmont businessmen operated cotton gins, brokered cotton, organized banks, opened general stores, shaped local and state politics, and invested in cotton mills. In Pineville, where 6,000 bales of cotton were sold each year around the turn of the twentieth century, merchants Samuel Younts and William Yandell prospered in the cotton trade and credit

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 13 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

business. Brothers James and Leitner Miller operated the principal cotton gin and with Yandell and Younts became major property owners. In the nearby town of Matthews, B. D. Funderburk, Thomas Jefferson Renfrow, and business partners Everard Jefferson Heath and Edward Solomon Reid ran thriving businesses as cotton buyers, storekeepers, and bankers. North of Charlotte in Cornelius, R. J. Stough and J. B. Cornelius invested in the town's two cotton mills and marketed "everything from cotton to coffins" in their general stores (Branson 1900; *North Carolina Year Book* 1909, 1910; Sherrill 1991; Mattson 1991: 4-6; Ramsay 2004: 2-4).

The small-town boosters of this era perceived cotton mills as synonymous with progress. "Huntersville has 'factory fever'," proclaimed a resident in 1888 following a citizens meeting urging textile manufacturing. By 1903, Mecklenburg County contained seventeen cotton mills, and Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson, and Pineville each had a textile plant and an adjoining mill village. In Pineville, a group of Charlotte stockholders established Dover Yarn Mills just south of Main Street in 1894. Within a decade, Dover Yarn had a new weaving room and employed some 150 workers who inhabited a sizable mill village along the Southern Railway. By 1910, the town contained approximately 600 residents, one quarter of whom worked in the mill (Tompkins 1903: 198; North Carolina Year Book 1910).

During the years after incorporation, Pineville developed into a small, bustling entrepot for mules and cotton. According to local historian, Joe Howard Griffin Sr., in the late nineteenth century Pineville was among the major mule trading centers in the region, vending mules to cotton farmers in southern Mecklenburg County as well as to large landowners in the uplands of South Carolina (Griffin 2001).

In 1967, *Charlotte Observer* journalist and Pineville resident, H. E. C. "Red Buck" Bryant described the town's prosperous early days of mule trading:

Its merchants not only bought and distributed cotton in bales but sold the mules which helped to produce the crops. Sections of North Carolina and upper South Carolina, where cotton was king, had to have shavetails (mules) to get the work done. Some new ones were needed each spring and Pineville was the place to get them. Drovers would bring them in, sound and 16 hands high, generally young and ready to "break to plow and wagon" (Bryant 1967).

In 1884, *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory* recorded ten general stores, two drugstores, two hotels, a physician, and a wheelwright in Pineville--more businesses than any small town in the county other than Davidson. The early twentieth century saw continued growth. Dover Yarn Mills became part of the large Chadwick-Hoskins chain of mills in 1908, and by 1910 the town's population approached 1,000. The *North Carolina Year Book* for 1912 recorded the Pineville Loan and Savings and two barbershops among the new businesses on Main Street, in addition to the customary assortment of general stores, groceries, liveries, hotels, and drugstores. As with other

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 14 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

small railroad towns in the region, local farmers ginned and marketed their cotton in Pineville and purchased farm supplies, building materials, and finished goods (Branson 1884; Tompkins 1903: 198; *North Carolina Year Book* 1912; Ramsay 2004: 3).

Between the 1870s and early 1890s, Pineville businessman, Samuel Younts, owned numerous tracts in the commercial district and shaped its development. Under Younts's direction, extensive commercial investments occurred initially along the north side of Main Street while the south side remained sparsely developed until the 1920s. Younts built brick and frame stores and opened a livery stable on Main Street east of Church Street (east of the historic district). A native of Davidson County, North Carolina, Younts moved to Pineville after the Civil War and became one of its leading entrepreneurs and political figures. He became Pineville's first mayor in 1873, and in that same year erected the imposing, Italianate-inspired, two-story, brick residence that still commands the east end of Main Street (east of the historic district). In the early 1870s, Younts constructed the brick general store at 316 Main Street, and as recorded in the original Pineville Town Charter, surveyors determined the town limits by measuring a half mile in each direction from his store. In business with his eldest son, John, the enterprising Yountses bought land, traded mules, brokered cotton, and lent money to farmers through the 1870s and 1880s. Samuel Younts also donated land for both the Presbyterian and Methodist churches. In 1888, Samuel Younts helped to organize the Pineville Cotton Mill which was quickly acquired and expanded by Dover Yarn Mills in 1894. When the Younts family sold its Main Street properties in 1892 (two years after Samuel Younts's death), the deed denoted a collection of one-story and two-story, brick and frame buildings owned by Younts and Son (Ramsay 2003: 1-4; Mecklenburg County Deed Books 6: 566; 84: 333).

As the Younts heirs sold their holdings on the north side of Main Street, new investors began acquiring these lots to create the contiguous row of brick buildings that stands today. About 1910, the Pineville Loan and Savings Bank occupied the two-story, brick building at 314 Main Street (just east of Younts General Store). One of the few two-story commercial buildings on Main Street, the former loan and savings bank building housed Hair's Drugstore by the 1930s. The Pineville Masonic Lodge occupied the second story until the 1940s when physician Dr. Raleigh C. Reid leased the space (Mecklenburg County Deed Books 63: 172; 76: 288; 84: 333; 140: 519; 182: 378; 248: 638; Griffin 2001).

The row of one-story storefronts west of Younts General Store included a drugstore (318-330 Main Street), several general stores, a barbershop and poolroom, a doctor's office, and a hardware store. In 1906, Walter B. Bailes purchased the lot at 322 and 324 Main Street and built the existing one-story brick building for a barbershop and a poolroom. Today known as Bailes Recreation, a small tavern occupies the space (Mecklenburg County Deed Book 208: 541; Archambault and Morrill 2004: 3-4; Griffin 2001).

By the 1920s, Blankenship's feed and oil business had replaced the drugstore at the west end the commercial block (330 Main Street). Sited near the railroad tracks and across from the depot,

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 15 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Blankenship's business also included an ice house and coal yard. Before the World War II, when few Pineville residents owned electric refrigerators, Blankenship made daily, door-to-door deliveries of ice (Archambault and Morrill 2004: 3-4; Griffin 2001).

By World War I, local businessmen, Jim and Leitner Miller and William Yandell, were playing increasingly important roles in the improvement and expansion of the business district. The Millers opened their cotton gin (now gone) alongside the tracks in 1915 and began buying and selling property along the north side of Main. Yandell started acquiring land and buildings along the south side of Main Street in 1919 when he purchased a half-acre tract from C.H. Griffin and his wife, Rana. Willeen Yandell, the daughter of William, recalled in a 1987 *Charlotte Observer* article that Main Street was simply an unpaved wagon road when her farther arrived in 1912. When a highway bridge was constructed in 1927 over nearby Big Sugar Creek (west of the commercial district), Yandell—recognizing a business opportunity—profited from the housing and feeding of teams of workers and mules during the year of construction (Archambault and Morrill 2004: 1-3; Gray and Murphy, "Pineville Commercial Block" 2006: 1-2; Mecklenburg County Deed Books; 412: 377).

In 1925, Yandell launched commercial development on the south side of Main Street with the construction of the Yandell Hotel and Grocery at the southeast corner of Main and Dover streets (331-333 Main Street). Reflecting his prominence in Pineville, the two-story, brick building, with two storefronts on Main Street elevation, was the largest structure in the commercial district. The building's corner storefront at 333 Main Street served as Yandell's office, where residents could apply for loans, cash checks, pay rents, and seek legal advice (Gray and Murphy, "Yandell Hotel and Grocery" 2006: 1-2).

In 1928, Yandell constructed the existing one-story building adjacent to his hotel and grocery (325-329 Main Street). The building's three storefronts included the local movie house—the State Theater (325 Main Street); McCoy's Barbershop (327 Main Street); and an office (329 Main Street) (Gray and Murphy, "1928 Yandell Building" 2006: 1-2).

As the commercial district's largest landowner, with 250 feet of frontage, Yandell was also involved in Main Street improvement campaigns. In June 1929, he and other businessmen along Main petitioned the Board of Alderman and the mayor to grade and pave the street with property owners agreeing to pay one-quarter of the cost of the improvements. Four-feet wide, concrete sidewalks were laid on each side of the street, and trees and grass parking strips were planted between the sidewalks and the street. By the 1930s, the newly-paved commercial core contained five general stores, a dime store, a drug store, a doctor's office, hardware store, pool room, livery stable, blacksmith, post office, icehouse, movie theater, and funeral home.

By the mid-1950s, the south side of Main Street's commercial block had been completed after Yandell's vacant lot at 319-323 Main Street was developed into a one-story masonry building with two storefronts. McCoy's Barbershop (previously at 327 Main Street) relocated into the east

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 16 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

storefront at 319 Main Street while the town post office occupied the adjacent space to the west. On the 100 block of Dover Street facing the railroad tracks, a one-story row of concrete-block storefronts (105-109 Dover Street) was completed in 1956. Containing a variety of small retail and service establishments, this commercial row marked the end of building construction in the historic district (Gray and Murphy, "McCoy's Barbershop and Pineville Post Office" 2006: 1-2).

The appearance and function of the Pineville business district remained little changed until the 1960s. Indeed, on autumn Saturdays into the 1950s, residents recalled Main Street lined with mule-drawn wagons filled with cotton. The traditional Main Street businesses, including drugstores, groceries, a theater, and doctors' offices, continued to serve a local clientele of mill workers, farmers, and the families of shopkeepers and professionals (Archambault and Morrill 2004: 3-4).

However, with Charlotte's southward expansion in the latter twentieth century, Pineville's outskirts have become increasingly suburban. The erection of the massive Carowinds Amusement Park three miles west of town; the rise of commercial development along US 51 between Pineville and Mathews, including the nearby construction of the regional Carolina Place Mall; and the completion of the I-485 beltway all contributed to the transformation of Pineville's rural periphery into suburbia. In the Pineville town center during the 1960s, a parking lot replaced several commercial buildings on the north side of Main Street, just east of the historic district. On the south side, a gas station (now gone) arose at the corner of Main and Church streets to serve growing automobile traffic. Concurrently, traditional retail uses began to change as nearby shopping malls and commercial strips drew shoppers away from Main Street. By the 1980s, Main Street was dominated by antique stores or new specialty stores that catered primarily to a suburban clientele (Grubbins 1987; Archambault and Morrill 2004: 4; *Charlotte Observer* 25 April 2009).

Nevertheless, the commercial historic district retains its physical integrity. In its compact rows of contiguous brick storefronts oriented to Main Street and the railroad tracks, the district embodies Pineville's role as a small-town trading center and entrepot in Mecklenburg County during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Architecture Context

The Pineville Commercial Historic District has one of the most intact concentrations of historic, small-town commercial architecture in Mecklenburg County. The fifteen contributing buildings in the historic district illustrate the development of small-town storefront designs in the county and nationwide between the late nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries. In common with the well-preserved commercial districts in the Mecklenburg County towns of Matthews (National Register 2000) and Davidson (National Register 2009), Pineville's historic district contains narrow, contiguous commercial buildings arranged primarily along a single thoroughfare (Main Street) near the railroad tracks. Also similar to Matthews and Davidson, the buildings in the commercial historic

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 17 Pineville Commercial Historic District
Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

district comprise a small repertoire of forms, styles, and building materials. Brick is the principal building material although by the 1950s brick was used as a veneer on buildings constructed of concrete block (e.g., 319-321 Main Street and 105-109 Dover Street).

Reflecting the national trend for main-street commercial architecture in this period, the buildings have a utilitarian style and were designed for pedestrian traffic and small-scale businesses. The majority of buildings are small, one-story, one-part commercial units well suited to the long, narrow lots found in both urban and small-town business districts, and the open interiors allowed for maximum flexibility. This one-part building type has an entrance flanked by large display windows and capped by a cornice, above which are usually a wall area and parapet suitable for decorative brickwork and recessed panel (e.g., Carroll's Grocery Store at 318 Main Street and 322-324 Main Street). The historic district also includes several two-part commercial buildings—Younts General Store at 316 Main Street and the Yandell Hotel and Grocery at 331-333 Main Street. These buildings contain first-floor public spaces (retail stores), and more private spaces (hotel rooms, Masonic lodge) on the second (Longstreth 1987: 24-67).

Just as their basic configurations followed common types, their decorative elements reflected national trends with Italianate and classical motifs predominating. Although the Italianate style is not fully developed in any of Pineville's commercial properties, elements of the style are clearly displayed on the oldest buildings. Characterized by corbelled brick cornices and stringcourses; recessed brick panels; bracketed and heavily molded cornices; and segmental-arched windows and doorways, the commercial Italianate style influenced storefront designs throughout the country in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Younts General Store (ca. 1873) at 316 Main Street, suggests Italianate classicism in its segmental-arched vents, tall shopfront windows, brick panels, and stepped parapet (which originally included a heavily molded cornice). The adjacent Pineville Loan and Savings Bank (ca. 1910) at 314 Main Street evokes the style in its segmental-arched windows and brick paneling and stringcourses. The smaller, ca. 1900 storefronts at 312, 318, and 320 Main Street all feature an array of bracketed cornices and decorative brick corbelling that are emblematic of commercial Italianate design.

In the early twentieth century, the rising national popularity of neoclassicism influenced commercial facades on Main Street. New buildings featured such classical elements as pedimented facades with columns or fluted pilasters; dentil molding along the cornices; and classical wood trim around windows and doorways. Decorative details were often emphasized by the use of white cast-stone or terra cotta that stood in contrast to the red brick walls.

Constructed in 1925, the Yandell Hotel and Grocery (331-333 Main Street) expresses the Commercial Style in the shallow pedimented cornices along the Main and Dover street elevations; the symmetry of the façade; use of patterned brick; and the absence of picturesque detailing found on the earlier commercial buildings. Although now painted, the original exterior was red brick set off by white, cast-stone coping. On the north side of Main Street, the one-story, ca. 1910 Pineville

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 18 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Gun Shop (326-328 Main Street) was updated ca. 1950 with a modern red-brick façade capped by a denticulated cornice.

By the 1950s, the Modern movement began to have a profound influence on American commercial architecture. Its basic principles emphasized unadorned, geometrical forms that expressed function while employing the latest materials. Modernist buildings displayed such emblematic features as flat roofs; cantilevered upper floors and balconies; smooth elevations devoid of historically-derived decoration; and continuous bands of windows or expanses of glass that admitted natural light. The Modern movement conceived of architecture not as masses enclosing space but as intersecting horizontal and vertical planes defining space. In addition to these architectural tendencies, the 1950s witnessed the explosive growth in automobile ownership which, in turn, spurred the development of off-street parking in formerly compact business districts. Expansive parking lots surrounding new buildings redefined the traditional spatial order. In Pineville at mid-century, the contiguous rows of commercial facades in the historic district remained little changed. However, on the north side of Main Street, buildings at the east end of the block were razed for a parking lot, and on the south side, a gas station (now gone) was built at the corner of Main and Church streets. Within the historic district, the Modernist influence is simply expressed in the Roman brick exteriors at 310 and 323 Main Street and the unadorned metal panels affixed to the facade at 325 Main Street. The commercial building at 323 Main Street also evokes Modernism in its rectangular, recessed entryway that breaks the plane of the façade and shelters a glazed, steel-framed doorway (Longstreth 1987: 126-127).

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 19 Pineville Commercial Historic District
Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

9. Major Bibliographic References

- Archambault, Paul, and Dan L. Morrill. "Pineville: Final Report." Unpublished manuscript on file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, Charlotte, North Carolina, 2004.
- Bishir, Catherine W. *North Carolina Architecture*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1990, portable edition 2005.
- ---- and Michael T. Southern. *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.
- Blythe, LaGette, and Charles R. Brockman. *Hornets' Nest: The Story of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.* Charlotte: McNally of Charlotte, 1961.
- Branson, Levi. ed. *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory.* 1869, 1870, 1884, 1896. Raleigh: Levi Branson, Publisher.
- Bryant, H. E. C. "Pineville was Quite a Town," Charlotte Observer, 21 May 1967.
- Charlotte Observer. 29 June 1925; 4 October 1939; 25 April 2009.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. Architectural Survey Files. Charlotte, North Carolina.
- Gilbert, John, and Grady Jeffreys. *Crossties Through Carolina*. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Helio Press, 1969.
- Gray, Stewart and Hope Murphy. "Pineville Commercial Block: Survey and Research Report."

 On file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Historic Landmarks Commission, 2006.
- -----. "Yandell Hotel and Grocery: Survey and Research Report." On file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Historic Landmarks Commission, 2006.
- ----. "1928 Yandell Building: Survey and Research Report." On file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Historic Landmarks Commission, 2006.
- ----. "McCoy's Barbershop and Pineville Post Office (Former): Survey and Research Report." On file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Historic Landmarks Commission, 2006.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 20 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

- Griffin, Joe H. My Hometown-Pineville: History, Hearsay, Memories & Scrapbook of Pineville, 2001.
- ----. Interview with principal investigators. Pineville, North Carolina, 18 November 2010.
- Grubbins, Pat Border. "The Changing Face of Downtown Pineville," *Charlotte Observer,* February 15, 1987, Mecklenburg Neighbors Section: 10.
- Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture.* Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, 1987.
- Mattson, Richard L. "Small Towns of Mecklenburg County." Typewritten manuscript on file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, 1991.
- Mecklenburg County. Mecklenburg County Courthouse, Register of Deeds.
- North Carolina Bureau of Labor and Printing. *Annual Reports of the State of North Carolina*. Raleigh, North Carolina: Edwards and Broughton and E.M. Ezell, 1902-1925.
- North Carolina Year Book. Raleigh, North Carolina: News and Observer, 1909-1910.
- Pineville Town Charter. 28 February 1873. On file at the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, Main Branch, Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, North Carolina.
- Ramsay, Lara. "Samuel Younts House: Survey and Research Report." On file at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Historic Landmarks Commission, 2003.
- Thompson, Edgar T. *Agricultural Mecklenburg and Industrial Charlotte*. Charlotte, North Carolina: Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, 1926.
- Tompkins, Daniel Augustus. *A History of Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte, 1740-1903.* Vol. II. Charlotte, North Carolina: Charlotte Observer Printing House, 1903.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 21 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

10. Geographical Data (continued)

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundaries of the Pineville Commercial Historic District are shown on the accompanying historic district map at 1' = 25' scale.

Boundary Justification: The boundary for the Pineville Commercial Historic District encompasses only the historic resources associated with the historical development of the Pineville business district. These blocks were the focal point of Pineville's commercial development during the period of significance (ca. 1873-1956).

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 12 Page 22 Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

The following information pertains to each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Pineville Commercial Historic District

Location: Pineville, North Carolina

County: Mecklenburg County

Name of Photographer: Mattson, Alexander, and Associates, Inc.

Location of Negatives: Historic Preservation Office

North Carolina Division of Archives and History

109 E. Jones Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2807

Date of Photographs: December 2010

Photographs:

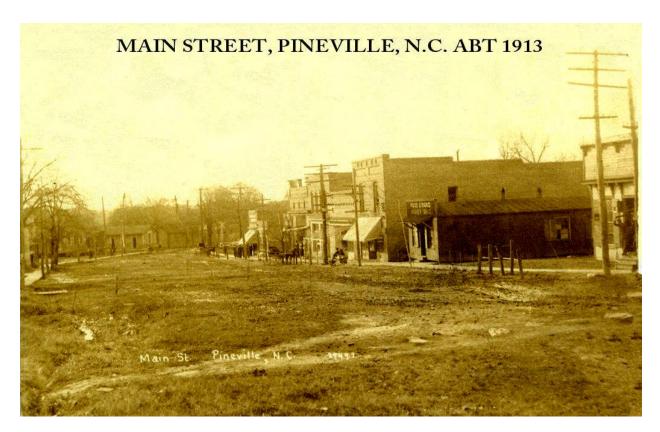
- 1. Main Street, North Side 300 Block, Looking Northwest
- 2. Main Street, 300 Block, Looking West
- 3. Main Street, South Side 300 Block, Looking West
- 4. Pineville Loan and Savings Bank/Younts General Store, 314-316 Main Street, Looking North
- 5. Commercial Buildings, 318-324 Main Street, Looking North
- 6. Façade Details, 318-320 Main Street, Looking North
- 7. Commercial Buildings, 326-330 Main Street, Looking North
- 8. Commercial Buildings, Rear Elevations, North Side 300 Block, Looking East
- 9. Main Street, South Side 300 Block, Looking Southeast
- 10. Yandell Hotel and Grocery, 331-333 Main Street, Looking South
- 11. Commercial Buildings, 323-329 Main Street, Looking South
- 12. Commercial Buildings, 105-109 Dover Street, Looking East

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number Exhibits Page 23

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina



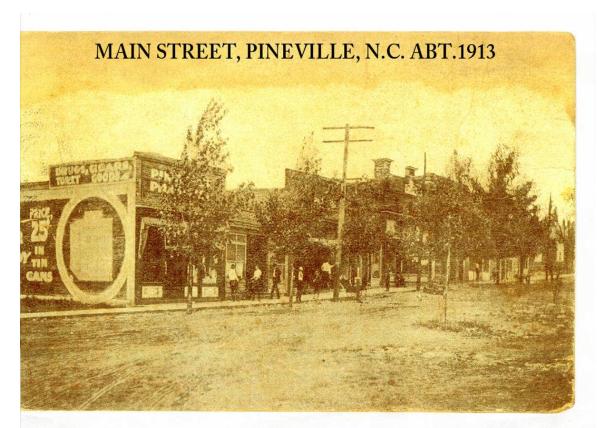
Source: Griffin, Joe H. *My Hometown-Pineville: History, Hearsay, Memories & Scrapbook of Pineville*, 2001.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number Exhibits Page 24

Pineville Commercial Historic District Mecklenburg County, North Carolina



Source: Griffin, Joe H. *My Hometown-Pineville: History, Hearsay, Memories & Scrapbook of Pineville*, 2001.